

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—Whether there was any wilful intention on the part of the Government, that is the point. The House will not find it.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Only in criminal cases are intentions necessary.

President.—That is how things are done.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—There are three items. The House must also see to the necessity for these.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—We can see it is three.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—I never knew, Sir, that he wanted information on that point.

President.—Mr. Salem, I shall see about the matter. The next item is supplementary grants.

Supplementary Grants.

1. XIII—Huzur—Temporary Establishment—Rs. 1,750.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—Sir, I beg to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 1,750 under 'XIII. Huzur—Temporary Establishment'. This demand has been necessitated because no provision was made in the budget estimate for 1104 for the temporary establishment consisting of the Special Officer and the typist-clerk engaged with the report of the Special Finance Committee, as there was no sanction at the time the budget was framed to continue the establishment beyond 1103. I have to say something in explanation for the continuance of the establishment because the non-official Members of the Standing Finance Committee opposed this demand. Copy of the report of the Committee was received by the Government on 23rd Kumbham 1103. This was without all supplementary and dissenting minutes. In its present complete form it reached Government on 6th Medam 1103. The report was an important document which dealt with the whole establishment in the State Service, dealing with its financial position and suggesting a recurring annual additional expenditure of about 2½ lakhs of rupees on establishment alone and making more than 200 recommendations for the consideration of Government in connection with establishment, travelling allowance, contingent charges, special charges and other items of State expenditure covered by the whole budget. The various recommendations had to be examined in detail to enable Government to pass orders. It had to be considered how the recommendations varied from the existing system, and from the proposals of Heads of Departments. The establishment lists had to be checked and mistakes if any rectified and omissions supplied. During the period that the Committee was sitting and preparing its report, changes might have taken place, and these had to be embodied. The work was

a laborious one and could not be got through along with the other work in the ordinary course. It was, therefore, necessary to place one of the senior officers in the Huzur Office on special duty to attend to this and this was done with effect from 19th Medam 1103. In spite of strenuous attempts it has not been possible to close the work yet. Government wished to ascertain the views of the Legislative Council on the recommendations in the report and wanted to do this if possible during the sittings in Karkadagam so as to enable them to pass orders earlier but this had to be postponed to Kanni 1104. Various modifications were suggested in the Council. The financial commitments arising therefrom have to be worked out and determined. This added considerably to the work of the Special Officer. So many changes were not anticipated and the term of the Special Officer had, therefore, to be extended till the end of Makaram 1104. The work is expected to be completed by this time. I request the House will be pleased to grant the allotment asked for.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—May I know what the pay of the Special Officer is?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—Rs. 200.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—Before we proceed, I wish to rise to one point of order. In this matter, one Government officer has practically to criticise another brother officer in raising a point of order in regard to a motion made by a Government Member. We are all Members of the same Council enjoying the same privileges, and you are the trustee both in regard to the officials and non-officials. I rise to an important point of order. I refer you, Sir, to section 16 clause 4 of the Cochin Legislative Council Regulation.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—That is regarding votable and non-votable items.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—According to that provision the proposals of our Government for the appropriation of revenues or moneys relating to certain matters shall not be submitted to the vote of the Council, nor shall they be open to discussion by the Council when the budget is under consideration. These provisions apply to supplementary grants also, and there you will find, Sir, among those items prohibited, salaries and allowances of officers appointed by the Government. The Special Officer who was engaged in scrutinising the Finance Committee's proposal is an officer appointed by His Highness' Government. For his appointment, His Highness' sanction has to be obtained and has been obtained. So he is an officer appointed by His Highness. That appointment carrying a salary of Rs. 200 is an appointment made with the

sanction of His Highness the Maharaja. It is an appointment by His Highness' Government. Out of this sum of Rs. 1,750, I understand that a sum of Rs. 1,400; relates to the pay; establishment, only Rs. 350. So far as this establishment is concerned, it is not strictly speaking an appointment made by the Diwan, for that also sanction of His Highness has been obtained. Under the Rules and Standing Orders, the pay of the Special Officer appointed by the Government is not subject to the vote of the House. I rise to that point of order. If the Member wants to get the vote for the pay of the establishment, there will be some justification and for that he will have to bring a separate motion. He ought not to have merged these two things together. I rise to a point of order if that item is votable.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—It does not include Special Officers.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—An officer may be special. He may be a deputy or he may be "extraordinary". Special is only a qualification of the word 'officer'. That is the general definition in logic.

President.—We find all these items are non-votable.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—It is very difficult to go back.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—But having found that this non-votable item is put in for voting supplementary grant, by a mistake, then it ought not to be repeated.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I think the Hon'ble Leader of the House is trying to dwindle the little power that we have got. Even by custom we can establish that. These are temporary establishments. These are not the officers of the Government necessary for carrying on the administration. There is a great difference between temporary and permanent. When you create a new Department of a Special Officer, this Council exists, as we do, to take care of the purse, and it is natural that it must come here, and it has been rightly construed, and I don't think my learned friend, the Leader of the House, is correct in saying that the powers that are already parted by the Government should be taken back. It is too late. I asked the point at the Standing Finance Committee meeting whether that amount was votable. I looked up and saw that the salaries of officers are not votable. There is no list put up, what all officers may be considered officers. Such a law is not laid down. In spite of that fact, my learned friend is saying now that it is not so. There may be so many things requiring His Highness' sanction. A tender to be accepted may require the sanction of His Highness. That is not the point. The point is, in the absence of any list showing the specific officers of the Government or a listed officers of the Government,

there is no *Civil List*, all other appointments coming outside that are certainly special appointments or temporary appointments for which the vote of the House is absolutely necessary.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—Pay of Puisne Judges, is it votable?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—It is not pensionable. His pension will not count upon this. An officer of the Government means an officer who has got a salary and who has got a pension.

President.—“Salaries and allowances of officers”. It is a Special Officer. We are ordinary officers.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Read (b) also.

President.—Different sets of officers are given. If it comes under (a) or (b) it is non-votable.

So let us go upon the language of this section. Do you consider the Special Officer coming within the meaning of clause 4 ‘Salaries and allowances of officers’?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—No. Because you will please see, Sir, our sanction is put under (b), and the Leader of the House wanted to say whenever it is an appointment made by the Government he must get the sanction of His Highness. There are two separate things. Appointed by the Government-Secretary to the Council, the Deputy President, etc.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—Where is it said so?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—That is specially said by a sub-clause.

President.—In (b) it is said ‘whose appointments as specified in the rules made under this Regulation require our sanction.’ It is said that the Secretary shall be appointed by the Government. So that won’t apply to the present case. We will confine our attention to (a) alone.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—I draw your attention to clause 5. “If any question arises whether any proposed appropriation of revenue or moneys does or does not relate to any matter not liable to be voted upon by the Council, the decision of our Diwan shall be final.” Whether this is votable or non-votable. This question will not arise if you decide whether this should be voted upon.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—It has already been decided and placed before the Finance Committee and before this House. It is your own fault.

President.—The decision of the Diwan shall be final, no doubt subject to reconsideration.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—The Diwan has decided and sent it here. Now the President only is here.

President.—I shall bear in mind the objections raised by the Revenue Member in future. Let this be considered votable, but let this not be considered as a precedent.

We have cut motions with regard to this of Messrs. C. J. Mathew and E. Ikkanda Warriar.

Motion No. 1.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 1,750 under 'XIII—Huzur—Temporary Establishment'.*

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—I beg leave to move to omit the grant of Rs. 1,750 under 'XIII—Huzur—Temporary Establishment'.

It is not for us, Sir, to discuss or even question the necessity that might have arisen for the appointment of a Special Officer to tackle or rather re-tackle the questions already tackled by the leading men of the State. But I must say we are ignorant as to the exact nature of the work that is being done by this officer. It is in a very wide sense said that he is scrutinising the report. That is too vague a term for us to understand what actually he is doing. Is he really sitting in judgment over the Members of the Special Finance Committee?

President.—I shall bring all the files and let you know the nature of the work he does.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—It is not possible to explain it in words.

President.—I shall bring all the files. Over 204 points we have got. I think we have got about hundred files.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—I have no objection to show all the files to all the Members.

President.—Only here and there are some confidential matters as to how the recommendations should be accepted.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—We should have been shown these big files before the Special Session. We asked for it then. For argument's sake, I might concede that this officer was working very vigilantly and very seriously. Perhaps, he was not lazy and he might have been doing his work properly. My point in bringing this cut motion before the House is to show that the delay, this inordinate delay, caused in setting on foot these schemes of reorganisation, is looked upon by the public both with disgust and scorn. It is even believed that the special officialdom with additional pay, additional privileges and other attractions is really standing in the way of an early and speedy ending of the whole affair. A Special Officer with special privileges is the root-cause of all delay. That is the popular feeling. The Government is unnecessarily tolerating, it is said, the continuation of the Special Officer because he is a favoured soul.

President.—If I hold out an assurance that it is not so, will you be satisfied?

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—I shall be satisfied if his office is discontinued forthwith. What can one man alone do, Sir? It is left to you to decide. If one officer could not do all the work in a limited time, you could have appointed additional hands and got the things done at once and finished. Your Finance Member himself once referred to "many a hungry mouth" existing in the various Departments of the Government. How long are you going to make them wait and wait? When is the manna going to fall into their mouths? The public as well as the subordinate officers have been endlessly waiting and they in one voice cry out that this special officialdom be abolished at once. That seems to be the only remedy. If the Government wants to show favour to one of its officers, that should not stand against the legitimate aspirations of a hundred others. That is the real complaint.

President.—There is an appointment of a Special Officer for investigating these things. It may take a longer time with normal establishment. He may be working at the figures, the actual commitments of the Government so far as the finances are concerned. So more than one Special Officer will have to be appointed for drawing up the reorganisation scheme of the Departments and so they will have to go through the recommendations of the Special Finance Committee. They will have to study the history of each case. They should also see how these reorganisations are effected in other places. But then there is an attempt made by Government to consult the Heads of Departments not only separately but all of them together at a conference also, to look into the financial results. They have to be taken to His Highness' notice, each and every recommendation, before final orders are passed on them. It is all very well to say that everything should be done very soon.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Before submitting for the Royal sanction, the Special Officer must finish his work. When is that going to be? If one particular officer is to do the whole thing, it would take a very long time indeed. But, if a few more hands are appointed to look into the different Departments of the Government, the whole thing could be done very easily.

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—I do not know whether it is practicable.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—I beg to inform the House that in Mysore a Committee appointed half a dozen years ago has not yet issued orders on all the recommendations of the Committee. The delay here is not at all comparable to the delay elsewhere.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—That is no excuse for the delay, Sir. Our Committee was appointed 2 or 3 years ago. Ours is a small State besides. It is also a long time since the Committee submitted its report. All the materials have been made ready. We have only to see which recommendations are to be accepted and which not. What can an officer alone do in this connection whatever be his capacity or his brain power? The recommendations both of the Committee and of the Legislative Council are before the Government. All the relevant matters are there. Why not your Heads of Departments meet and come to the conclusion and pass final orders? We do not want to depend upon the decisions of your Special Officer. In the Special Finance Committee there were Heads of Departments also. They could have made all their points clear to the Committee then and there. The figures are also supplied by the Committee. They have drafted the schemes and shown the financial commitments. So much so, there is not anything, in my opinion, which can keep the special officer engaged for a day more. There is no useful purpose to be served by a Special Officer. I am voicing here the popular opinion.

President.—No doubt, we are to rely upon popular opinion, provided it is based on facts.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Facts are unfortunately viewed from different angles of vision. As viewed by the public, this Special Officer seems to be an unnecessary accompaniment. He should not be allowed to sit a day more. I, therefore, submit that the special officialdom may be discontinued forthwith.

President.—So you say the appointment of the Special Officer is causing a great deal of expenditure to the State?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—As I said, in Mysore they were working for the past half a dozen years and there it is one man who looks into it and nothing has come out of it as yet. That is the position there.

President.—So there is only one person looking into the matter there?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—Yes.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—May I know whether the Special Officer has been paid for the last three months?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—Yes. He was working at it.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—So you have already spent something out of this additional grant asked for also?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—Yes; but out of the allotment made for temporary establishment. We found that it was insufficient and so we came with this supplementary grant.

Motion No. 2.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,750 under 'XIII—Huzur—Temporary Establishment' by Re. 1.*

President.—Mr. Ikkanda Warriar has tabled a cut motion. Do you want it to be converted into a token motion?

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—No, Sir, my motion itself is a token one. My object in tabling it is to bring to the notice of the Government the discontent caused by the delay in publishing this report. My motion is only for the reduction of the amount by one rupee. But the Chalakkudi Member is for the omission of the whole amount. But that does not matter. I shall speak on my motion now. There seems to be something strange in the ways of our Government. It is probably considering this question over and over again.

President.—Only once.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—And to consider once it takes so much time. There appears to be no end to its consideration. It is not the first time that we hear of it. The present Government is notorious for it. So much so the public at large has begun to think that it will only consider and consider but will never do things at least at the proper time. Its policy has become a do-nothing one. Sir, this policy won't do. The people are not satisfied with it. They have a right to know where you are and what you do.

The low-paid officers are waiting for justice too long. They have become discontented and are becoming corrupt day by day. The cry for a living wage was raised some years ago. But Government practically shelved the question by appointing a Committee.

President.—You could not say that the Government had shelved the question.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—At any rate, the result of your policy was that. The Government Committee consisted of some of the eminent men of the State and all its Major Heads of Departments. They are all responsible men and officers and can't be expected to do things in a light-hearted way. In fact they have discharged their duties thoroughly and well. The details of financial commitments, &c., are given in the report itself. I fail to see the necessity of its scrutiny by a subordinate officer. It may be said that he is now considering the financial commitments of the Council's recommendations. But should there not be some time-limit for all these? Is it too much to expect the Government to be a little more prompt and to do things a little more speedily? What is the necessity for a separate staff to

scrutinise the figures in the report? Could it not be got done by the clerks in the various Departments? I do not find fault with the Special Officer. He may be working at it day and night. For that he is paid a decent salary.

What about the officers? They are getting discontented; and what is the result? They are getting more corrupt. They are taking to all sorts of means to make both ends meet and it practically affects the efficiency of the service also. It is only to bring these facts to the notice of the Government that I tabled my motion.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—The Government appointed a Committee consisting of nine Members in 1102 and we had a Special Session for considering their report about two months ago. I must say that there is strong feeling abroad that too much of time is being taken for disposing off this matter. When the Special Session was held to consider the report, we thought it rather strange that the Government, after having had the report of the Special Finance Committee for a long time before it, could not formulate some definite proposals which could be presented to the Council for discussion. We thought that there was no necessity for a Special Officer functioning on this question. That Special Officer's researches into this report did not produce any tangible results which could be brought before the House. Already seven months have elapsed. In the meantime, is there anything that justifies this inordinate delay? Here is a Special Officer who is drawing something like Rs.200 for doing tabulation work according to the Government. Is there anything extraordinary if people say that, after all, he is looking after his own main chance?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—One must take all these rumours for what they are worth.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Why not issue bulletins from time to time and reassure the public as regards the real state of affairs? What is the Special Officer doing? What is the result of his labours? Should not his work be open to the public? Why not let the public know, through their representatives at least, what he is doing? Give us at least small doses of information. The public have a right to know these things. At least let us have an explanation as to the necessity for keeping on the Special Officer and the nature of the work that is being done by him. Ever so many people are coming to me and inquiring as to the fate of the Special Finance Committee's report.

President.—Can you not give them an assurance that everything is going on properly?

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Even we do not know and as such how can we give them an assurance that everything is

going on properly? In any case something is better than nothing. People are hoping, especially peons getting Rs. 6 or Rs. 8, that their pay is going to be enhanced considerably; but they did not know when something would be done.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—But now there is no servant in the State service who is getting less than Rs. 10.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Give even the very little you propose, as early as possible, let it be Re. 1 or Rs. 2.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—What is the difference between 8 and 9 or 9 and 10?

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—It may be nothing to you and it may not be much to them also. But they will not live in anticipation only as they have to do now. We know the price of rice to-day, and we also know what was the price for the same quantity ten years ago, and the salary then and now. So let there not be any secret, at any rate, in this matter. Let this affair not be prolonged under the excuse of a functioning Special Officer. Let Department after Department be taken up or office after office and disposed off. Let somebody at least get something.

President.—You know this is not a matter to be done piece-meal. We must pass a final order after taking into consideration all matters connected with this. I am sketching what I have in view. You have to see the whole service, I mean all the Departments of the State, what are the financial results, what we have on the income side, whether you can satisfy the demands, and all that. We have worked that out for a period of ten years.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—I admit that that is the ideal method.

President.—It must be done and it is practicable also as seen from the results done so far.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Please do it, Sir, but do something. Take the Departments one by one and pass the reorganisation orders and then proceed to another. I believe that course will be a much lesser evil than this uncertain delay. Suppose the Special Officer takes another five years to come to an end of his work, what are we to do?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—There is some reasonableness in all things.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—We expect there is. What I say is it is more advantageous to appoint a Committee of 2, 3 or 4 instead of one Special Officer to go into this question.

President.—Two or three Special Officers cannot be appointed to consider this.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Then give him assistants and instead of taking years let him finish it in a few months. That is all what the Council desires. I have nothing else to say. What I submit is, let us have some early results. Let the public get a reassurance that, sooner or later, within a reasonable time, something will be done. We know absolutely nothing as yet as to what is going on or how far he has gone into the matter. We know absolutely nothing.

President.—One thing I can assure you. It is under consideration and we want to pass final orders as early as possible.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Sir, we want actions and not mere intentions, actions as early as possible. With these few words I support the token motion.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I support this motion not that for the omission of the whole grant. It is not necessary for considering this motion to consider the great delay with which the Government has been charged so many times in dealing with anything. That is not my purpose here. My sole purpose is not for supporting the motion to omit the grant of Rs. 1,750 that is asked for. My first point is that this House was not consulted with reference to the appointment of that Special Officer. The House was not given any information regarding this new appointment when they came to consider the Special Finance Committee report during the last sitting. After having spent this money, or I may say a part of it, you now come forward for the sanction of the supplementary grant. During the Budget Session you came forward with a demand for two lakhs of rupees without mentioning any specific item, and we granted a portion of it. You said it was for giving the same to the subordinate officers. You had the advantage of the work of the Special Officer. How did you come forward with a request to give you two lakhs of rupees to distribute among the subordinate officers? We should like to know how that money was distributed and what financial burden was cast upon the Government. You came forward in Karkadagam for it, and yet, when we came to consider the report, the Government gave us absolutely no aid, no information, no knowledge of the Special Officer's appointment, which is done at the cost of the people of the land. You again come and say, give us some more money to pay for his services whose work is of a confidential nature which is performed for your own sake. It is true you have got the powers of the grant; it should be used only sparingly; but I must say you are using it as a giant, because you discard our wishes. You are bound to take the

House into your confidence when you make such temporary appointments. Upon these grounds, we have not been told the necessity even now after we have raised the objection. It is necessary, as already pointed out, that he must be paid. Already you have paid him for the past four months, and that payment how did you make and on whose responsibility? Did you anticipate sanction for everything you ask? We want to give a warning to the Government to consult us previously and not to come here and say that you have appointed a man and that the money sanctioned is not sufficient to pay him. The attitude taken by the Government is, whether you sanction it or not, we do not care; for the poor Diwan will be made to certify the expenditure.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—Such expressions as “poor Diwan” should be objected to.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I used the phrase ‘poor Diwan’ as he was forced to certify the expenditure already incurred under special powers. It will be a pitiable condition for the Diwan to have to say that I came and consulted the House when there was no necessity to consult the House. Perhaps he is doing his duty to the best of his ability; but here we have no advantage of his work. The Council is absolutely ignorant and has been kept in ignorance purposely about this matter. Therefore, we are not justified as to the necessity of this expenditure, and even if we are inclined to give you the money, because you did not consult us previously as to the expenditure, even if we say we would not grant the money, you sometimes go over our powers and use your giant power and certify it. Even though we are pigmies, at times we will turn round and bite you, and we shall see we shall not be a party to it, and we shall not sanction you the money. So take the money by using the power of the giant which you possess. You have got the keys of the treasury. Money is collected by the Diwan Peishkar from the people. Everything is in your custody. We have absolutely no powers in our hands and you have got the power of the purse. Therefore, I oppose the grant of the whole amount and I request Hon’ble Members that the House should not be a party to the granting of this amount. Let they themselves shoulder the responsibility and under section 16 (8) or 16 (9) take the money.

President.—Mr. Salem, we are all working for a common thing, for the common good. There is no conflict.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I had my say.

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—I oppose the two cut motions. The two grounds taken by the Hon’ble Member are that there was absolutely no necessity for appointing

such an officer, and the second ground is that delay has been caused in the preparation of the report and final decision of the matter. My submission is that both these grounds cannot be maintained. The Special Finance Committee submitted a report, and it was sent to the Members for their consideration. The Government also has to make up its mind with respect to these recommendations, and so the Government has to study the report and to come to a conclusion. In order to do that, Government has chosen an officer to find out and see what things should be done and to make calculations about the results of the recommendations of the Special Finance Committee. Now in the Special Session of the Council it has been found that several things have been submitted, some in agreement with the Special Finance Committee report, and some against. So the recommendations of the Special Finance Committee are not all to be followed verbatim. Several Members opposed some of the findings of the Special Finance Committee and several resolutions have been passed in this Council against the Special Finance Committee report. So for this reason, the report of the Special Finance Committee cannot be taken as a whole and given effect to. Everything has to be considered. For that a Special Officer is necessary and the Government is quite justified in appointing a Special Officer.

Then something was said about the delay. It was only last month that certain resolutions were passed by this Council. Now those resolutions themselves are to be considered. Several recommendations were against and some for. The conclusions arrived at by the Special Finance Committee are not to be passed wholesale. All these things have to be considered and it requires time. It was also remarked that a number of officers could be appointed in order to expedite matters. In this matter an all-comprehensive view has to be taken, and any number of officers cannot be appointed to consider the details and form conclusions. As far as Government is concerned, they are very anxious to expedite this matter. For, in the last budget, a good allotment of two lakhs of rupees was reserved for the purpose. What was it for? It was simply to give effect to the recommendations of the Committee at least with respect to the low-paid officers of the State. They have been very anxious and the Hon'ble Members can see that this has resulted in the boon of His Highness the Maharaja to the effect that the minimum salary of the low-paid officers has been raised to Rs. 10. So the Government has given effect at least to some of the recommendations of the Special Finance Committee. On these grounds I oppose the cut motions.

(The House rose for lunch at 2 p. m. and met again at 3 p. m. with the Deputy President in the Chair.)

Deputy President.—We shall continue discussion of those motions.

Mr. V. D. Ouseph.—On a point of information. May we know what is the real nature of the work that is being done by the Special Officer? Of course there are so many recommendations in the report, there are ever so many recommendations of this House, and there are, we understand, proposals by Heads of Departments. What is the work that he is doing?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—He is to examine all these and to tabulate the resolutions and the recommendations made by Heads of Departments, the Special Finance Committee and Members of the Legislative Council and to work out the financial result of each resolution.

Mr. V. D. Ouseph.—That is to say, to find out the figures. Is he to suggest in respect of our recommendations that this is worthy of consideration and that is not worthy of consideration?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—That I cannot say.

Mr. V. D. Ouseph.—Is he to preside over our decisions and findings?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—Not at all. He is not to sit in judgment over the findings of the Committee or the Legislative Council. He is only working as an instructor to the Diwan and as a client he instructs you. That is all.

Mr. V. D. Ouseph.—In giving instructions is he to recommend a particular motion here and say that is useless and should not be allowed?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—No. What is the point, I would like to know?

Mr. V. D. Ouseph.—I want to know whether he has got any right to express his opinion about our motions in the Council.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—I am expressing my opinion in my official capacity. He is just like another clerk.

Mr. V. D. Ouseph.—So his function will be only to tabulate the figures. Can't that be distributed among so many persons?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—I can't say that. My own idea is that it is not possible.

Mr. V. D. Ouseph.—I support the motion, and in doing so, I would say a few words. I am supporting the first motion. There are so many non-official Members here, and I do not think any one of them knows the nature of the work that this

Special Officer is doing. During the last session we wanted to know what the work of this man is in his official capacity, and of course we got no information at all. I think there was some promise by the Government, that is, during the Budget Session, when I wanted to know whether any particular recommendation of the Finance Committee has been recommended by the Government or by any other officer, that all that will be placed before the Table at the next session. That is what I remember. Anyhow up to this time we only know that there is a Special Officer who has been drawing Rs. 200, and that he has been appointed as a Special Officer for the Finance Committee report. I do not think that the placing of him on a higher pay will in any way improve matters. That officer has been working for about 6 months and I believe he was being paid also. As it is, I do not think any of us know anything about his work. If it is only mere tabulation, I do not think why a Special Officer is necessary. Of course a clerk on Rs. 20 or 25 will be able to do it. (*Hear, hear.*) Why should you raise the pay of the officer from 100 to 200 and make him a Special Officer simply to tabulate? So that what I say is there is no need for a Special Officer at all. Of course you may add one more clerk to the Huzur Secretariat and get the work done by paying him, say, Rs. 50. What I mean to say is there is absolutely no sense in prolonging the office of a clerk of this kind with the dignified title of a Special Officer, (*hear, hear*) on an increased pay, and I support the motion on this ground.

Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.—Sir, I rise to support the second motion on the ground that there is no necessity for appointing a Special Officer and on the second ground that the policy adopted by the Government at the time of the discussion of the Finance Committee report was unfair and they were showing an indifferent attitude towards the discussion, and on the third ground of the inordinate delay shown by the Government to publish the report I say on the first ground there was no necessity to appoint a Special Officer. This Council unanimously passed that a committee should be appointed, and Government Members and also Honourable Members of the non-official body were deputed for that purpose. They have submitted their consolidated recommendations for the consideration of this House. In the face of these facts to appoint an officer to sit in judgment on those recommendations—I say this without any disparagement to his capabilities—to appoint a minor officer to consider those recommendations with an excuse to tabulate all these details and recommendations was most unfair and also a constitutional blunder. We are also ignorant of the nature of the work turned

out by the Special Officer. If it be, as the Hon'ble Member suggested, that he has no other business but to tabulate and to publish this report, I cannot explain the inordinate delay or the necessity for such an appointment. It might have been done by an ordinary printer or publisher. Secondly, the Government was taking an attitude, at the time of the discussion of the Finance Committee report, of complete indifference to suggestions made by this Council on this floor. They were not expressing their views. They were shutting their consolidated opinions from us, and it was rumoured that a round table conference of the official body was going to be held, and I do not know whether such a conference ever took place or whether they, in joint consultation, submitted their united opinions to modify the recommendations of the Finance Committee report and also the suggestions of this House made at the time when it was sitting for discussing the terms of the recommendations. And I may also voice the opinion of the public body regarding the inordinate delay shown for the increase of the pay of the minor staff and also to express the extreme displeasure at the attitude of the Government. I strongly support the second motion.

മാസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ.—സർ, ഞാനും ആദ്യത്തെ നിയമത്തെ പിന്തുടരുന്നു. സ്പെഷൽ ഫിനാൻസ് കമ്മറിയുടെ തീരുമാനങ്ങൾ നടപ്പിൽ വരുത്തുവാൻ താമസിച്ചുപോകുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു മാത്രമല്ല. ഗവണ്മെന്റ് പ്രധാനമായ രണ്ടു വലിയ അനീതികൾ ഈ അവസരത്തിൽ കാണിക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. ഒന്ന് ഗവണ്മെന്റിനുള്ള ഒരു അപമാനിക്കുന്നതും ഒന്ന് ഈ സഭയ്ക്കും അപമാനിക്കുന്നതും. സ്വകൃട്ടറി അവർകൾ പറഞ്ഞതുപോലെ സ്പെഷൽ അപ്പീസ്റ്റർ വക തിരിച്ചറയ്ക്കപ്പെട്ട മാത്രമായ ഒരു വെങ്കിൾ ഇക്കിനെ ഒരു നിയമനത്തിന്റെ ആവശ്യം ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നില്ലെന്ന് തീർത്തുപറയാം. അദ്ദേഹം പറഞ്ഞ ആ ഭാഗം ശരിയാണെന്നു എനിക്കു തോന്നുന്നില്ല. സ്പെഷൽ ഫിനാൻസ് കമ്മറിയും ലെജിസ്ലേറ്റീവ് കൗൺസിലും ചെയ്ത തീരുമാനങ്ങളിൽ ഏതു സ്വീകരിക്കണമെന്നും ആ തീരുമാനങ്ങളിൽ എന്തെല്ലാം മാറ്റങ്ങൾ വരുത്തേണമെന്നും ഏതു ഉപേക്ഷിക്കേണമെന്നും ഗവണ്മെന്റിനോടു രൂപം ചെയ്ത വാറുള്ള അധികാരത്തോടുകൂടിയാണ് ഈ സ്പെഷൽ അപ്പീസ്റ്ററെ നിയമിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതെന്നു വാദിക്കുവാനാണ് അധികം ന്യായം. എഴുത്തും എണ്ണയും രൂപാ ശമ്പളം വാങ്ങുന്ന വലിയ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ, രാജ്യത്തിലെ സമർത്ഥനായ ചില ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ അവരും കൗൺസിലിലെ സമർത്ഥനായ ചില മെമ്പർമാരും കൂടി വളരെക്കാലം പശ്ചാലോചന നടത്തി തീരുമാനിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള തീരുമാനങ്ങളെ പരിശോധിക്കുവാനും സ്വീകാര്യവും ത്യാജ്യവും ഇന്നവയാണെന്നു നിർദ്ദേശിക്കുവാനും കേവലം ക്ലാക്കായ ഒരാളെ

നിയമിച്ചത് ഒന്നാമതാവമെങ്ങിനെയെന്ന്, രണ്ടാമത് ഈ സഭയ്ക്കുപോലും ഈ സംഗതി ഞങ്ങൾക്ക് മനസ്സിലാക്കിയത് ഞങ്ങൾ അറിയിക്കുവാനാണ് ഞങ്ങൾ ഇന്ന് ഈ തുക വെട്ടികളയുവാൻ ഭാവികുന്നത്. നിങ്ങൾ നിങ്ങൾക്ക് ഇഷ്ടമുള്ളതു ചെയ്തുകൊള്ളുക. അതിനുള്ള അധികാരം നിങ്ങൾക്കു കയ്യുണ്ട്. പൊതുജനങ്ങളും ഈ സഭയും എത്ര മുറവിളികളാലും പാവപ്പെട്ട താണു നമ്പളക്കാരെ കയ്യാത്തിൽ വെക്കുന്നു ഉത്തരവാദിത്വ ബോധമില്ലാതെ ചെയ്യുന്ന അധർമ്മത്തെയും അനീതിയെയും ഞങ്ങൾ മനസ്സിലാക്കുകയാണ്. (*Hear, hear.*) അത് അറിയിക്കുവാൻ വേണ്ട മാത്രമാണ് ഞങ്ങൾ ഇതു ചെയ്യുവാൻ പോകുന്നത്. മേലാലേങ്കിലും വെക്കുന്നു ഇങ്ങനെയുള്ള അബദ്ധങ്ങളിൽ വീഴാതിരിക്കുവാൻ ശ്രമിക്കണമെന്ന് അപേക്ഷിച്ചുകൊണ്ട് ഈ നിശ്ചയത്തെ ഞാൻ പിന്തുടരുന്നു.

Mr. C. Barton Wright.—Sir, I rise to congratulate the Hon'ble Member for Jews on the able and concise manner in which he has dealt with this question. I entirely support all that he has said.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Sir, if I rise to participate in this day's debate, it is simply because I was one of those members of the Committee appointed by the Government to enquire into and report upon the necessary changes that ought to be effected in the services in the matter of pay and emoluments of officers. Now, had I known that our work, which extended to a period of 2 years, would be handed over to be scrutinised by a clerk, I would certainly have refused to have anything to do with the matter. It is offering a dire insult,—

Deputy President.—It is not for scrutiny. It is only for arranging them under proper heads.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—I refuse to accept that explanation and I shall be able to show that that was not your intention. After working for 2 years—and the members included some of the Heads of Departments—the whole thing was handed over to a clerk to be scrutinised by him to sit in judgment upon us. It is a dire insult not only to the Members of this Council, not only to the members of the Committee but your own officials. What is the object of this appointment? The object can only be one of two things, to provide a cushy job to one of your pet boys as you were in the habit of doing for the last 3 years. You were in the habit of creating posts and promoting those who were in your good book and at the same time neglecting your duties and your obligations to your other subordinates. Is it because you wanted to create a place for one of your favoured few? If it is so, you could have done it without offering an insult to

us. The Government have ample power to create posts as you have shown for the last 3 years. Why did you not do it, why did you not create some other posts, why did you not create a post in the Devaswam Department about which no unpleasant questions would have been asked here? Why did the Government do this to insult us? That is the first point. The second point is after appointing this superman, this super-genius, whose brain weighs more than the combined weight of fourteen people, did you get the value of your money? I do not know what you have got in return for this. We do not see anything. I suppose it is all locked up in the bosom of the Secretary or in the almirahs of the Secretariat—the most beautiful and sublime products that issued from the brain of this super-gentleman. The Government ought to come forward and do what they ought to do instead of simply creating obstacles and occasions to postpone what they should have done long long ago to their subordinates. Your method, your partiality, I am sorry to use that word, has become scandalous. If anybody questions, I shall be able to convince him with proofs. You give extensions to your favoured few, no matter whether the man is 75 or 76 and at the same time people who ask for an extension of 5 months have been refused. (*Hear, hear.*) The way in which the Government is carrying on the business is scandalous and this House is bound to enter into its emphatic protest against your behaviour. (*Hear, hear.*) That is all that I wish to say on this subject.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Sir, I rise to support this motion. It has become more or less the practice with the Government to insult members of Committees which the Government appoint. I was very sorry to hear what the Hon'ble Member for Trichur, who was a member of the Special Finance Committee, said, and I shall add another instance to prove that the Government has been doing the same thing with members of other Committees. There was an Excise Committee appointed by the Government and I was asked to sit on it. I accepted the membership in good spirit and I began to work on it. I got a report from the Member in charge of the Department who was the Convener of the Committee, and I wrote to him that I could not decipher that report. I, therefore, requested him to supply me with a copy of the report from which I could decipher what matter it contains. The request was refused. This is the way the Government are treating the members of their Committees and insulting them.

Mr. V. B. Vaidyanatha Ayyar.—That is not a correct statement. The Member was not refused; he was asked to return the indistinct memorandum.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Has the request been fulfilled? If it has not been fulfilled, the request stands as rejected by the Government. I asked the Member who should meet the expenses of stamp for returning the report and no satisfactory reply has been sent to me. The Hon'ble Member had sent to me some books for reference and now I want to see how the Hon'ble Member is going to get them back from me unless he satisfactorily settles the question of stamp. This is only an instance to show how the Government are treating the members of the Committees they appoint. Is this an honourable course for the Government to follow? I whole-heartedly support this motion.

Mr. A. L. Antony.—In support of this motion I have also to add one word more. The Hon'ble Member for Trichur has stated that it is rather scandalous and is an insult to members of Committees that a Special Officer is sitting in judgment upon the findings of the Finance Committee. But from the Government when it is said that it is not to scrutinise and not to pronounce a judgment that the Special Officer is sitting but only to tabulate and arrange the recommendations in a proper way so as to become a sort of instruction to Government, even then I hold that it is a scandal and an insult to them on that ground. When they say that the Special Officer is to formulate and tabulate in a proper way, that indirectly shows that this Committee members have not tabulated or arranged the findings in a proper way.

Deputy President.—The Council has modified it.

Mr. A. L. Antony.—Even that shows that the Council also have not considered well their recommendations to the Government. Either the Council Members have not arranged it in a proper way or the Committee members have not done it in such a way as to become proper recommendations to Government. The Committee have not given any haphazard judgment. They have tabulated the income and expenditure for 10 years and they have arranged their recommendations in a proper way and submitted their report. It is to tabulate that tabulated and digested report that an officer has been appointed. Though not to pronounce a judgment, to appoint him at least as a tabulator to this well-arranged and well-digested report of the members of the Committee, who consisted of eminent and well-experienced men of this State, is an injustice done to the members of the Committee. I, therefore, strongly support the motion.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—I propose that the question be now put.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—I beg to second it.

Deputy President.—You have got your right of reply.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—I have already said what I have got to say. This is an important matter which cannot be dealt with in a day or two. We are expediting matters as far as possible and we will finish the work as early as possible. That is all I can say now.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Can you not approximately say how long it will take?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—Suppose I commit myself by saying it will be over in a month or two. After that if it is not finished you will come down upon me and say "the Secretary promised" and all that.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—You may take the longest time.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—I think it will take nearly three months more.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—The Secretary said that it will be finished within 3 months. Is it the tabulation and the scrutiny or issue of final orders?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—As regards issue of final orders, I cannot say. The Diwan will be pleased to make certain recommendations to His Highness, and His Highness is to pass final orders. So I cannot say how long it will take to pass final orders.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Will not the business so far as the Huzur is concerned be over within three months?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—I hope so.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Unless he promises something definite, we cannot withdraw.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—We want to show to the Government the extreme discontent of the House.

Deputy President.—That is evident from the nature of the discussion.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—The Hon'ble the Secretary was saying when I moved the motion that so many Vakils can come and argue. We are not come here as Vakils.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—I only said that when he suggested 'why not appoint half a dozen Special Officers.' In practice it is impossible and anybody will agree with me that it is impossible.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—I want to speak one sentence. If the Government will have the unanimous opinion of the House as to what extent Government can proceed financially in raising the pay and improving emoluments of establishments, say a permanent increase in recurring expenditure of a lakh and a half per annum, if they give some unanimous opinion like that, then it will be a sort of practical advice and support to the Government and it will be very easy to dispose

of the matter. We can even dispose it of in one or two months. The House may say "we are the representatives of the people, it is our money that you are spending, we are contributing so much revenue we will allow you to spend so much" and I think that will make matters easy.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—I press the motion.

The motion for the omission of the grant of Rs. 1,750 under 'XIII—Huzur—Temporary Establishment' was put and agreed to.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—We want a poll.

The House divided :—Ayes 22, Noes 14, and Neutrals 3.

Ayes.

Noes.

Messrs.

1. A. L. Antony
2. K. J. Antony
3. K. Ayyappan
4. C. Barton Wright
5. M. A. Chakko
6. P. C. Chanchan
7. Dr. A. G. Menon
8. E. Ikkanda Warriar
9. K. P. Kannan Nayar
10. P. Krishna Menon
11. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan
12. A. K. Kunhi Moideen
13. C. V. Kuriyan
14. C. J. Mathew
15. K. T. Mathew
16. K. Mohamed Seethi
17. Ouseph P. Kundukulam
18. V. D. Ouseph
19. M. K. Raman
20. A. R. Menon
21. A. B. Salem
22. Thomas Manjuran

Messrs.

1. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar
2. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon
3. K. Govinda Menon
4. A. S. Harihara Ayyar
5. Rao Sahib T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar
6. T. K. Krishna Menon
7. K. Krishna Pisharodi
8. Rao Sahib C. Matthai
9. P. Nilakanta Menon
10. I. Raman Menon
11. A. Sankara Menon
12. V. B. Vaidyanatha Ayyar
13. A. K. Vengu Ayyar
14. Diwan Bahadur V. Verghese

Neutrals.

Messrs.

1. A. Eachara Menon
2. C. A. Kunjunni Raja
3. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—We are not for total reduction. That is our attitude.

Deputy President.—So the other motion need not be put to the vote.

(2). XXIII—A 2—Contribution to Municipalities—
Rs. 1,500.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—Sir, I rise to move for an additional grant of Rs. 1,500, under "XXIII A (2)—Government contribution to Municipalities". The Chairman of the Trichur